A MESSAGE TO THE PRESENT RULERS OF England.

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Whether COMMITTEE of SAFETY, (ſo called) Councell of Officers, or Others whatſoever.

Delivered unto them by an Ambaſſadour from the only Right Heire of the Government, whoſe Right alone it is to Rule,

And by ſpecial Authority and Commiſſion from him, this is ſent unto them, that they may hear, and fear, and learn Wiſdom, and may deliver up the proper Right of the only King unto him, that they may be bleſſed; but on the contrary dependeth their deſtruction.

By *EDWARD BURROUGH.*

London, Printed for *Giles Calvert*, at the black Spread-Eagle, near the Weſt-End of *Pauls*. 1659.

These things were upon me, to deliver even by speech and word of mouth to the present men in power, that they might be warned lest they perish; But no way being made for me so to do, I have written what was upon me, even as short as possibly I could, and in as little Compasse as might be, having hinted at things which might more largely bin spoken to; and I order this to be printed and given to their particular hands, with speed.

E. B.

To the present Rulers of England, *A* MESSAGE *to you all, by an Ambassadour from the* Lord God, *The* Great *and* Mighty *King; And Jesus Christ, the only* Prince *of Peace and Righteousnesse, whose Right alone, it is to Rule, over us in our Nation, and not Anothers,* In his Name and Authority, *I am come unto you.*

Friends, My Master is a High and Mighty, and powerful Prince, and very Honourable; And fear, reverence, respect and subjection belongs to him alone, from you and all mankinde, he is wise and understanding, and of great strength: And his dominion is from everlasting to everlasting; And he can do whatsoever he will in Heaven and Earth; for he rules with his Iron Rod over the World, and whatsoever he saith, it is done; for his Word is an everlasting Command; If he say to a man Live, it is so; and if he say to him Die, It cometh to passe; and if he give peace to a man or a Nation, none can make War; and if he make War with a person, or in a Nation, no man is able to make Peace. For why, he hath all power in his hand, and to him all Judgement and Authority is given, he is the Sonne of the living God, the everlasting Creator; he was, and is, and is to come; his eye beholdeth all things, and his Arme compasseth Heaven and Earth; and what his purpose is, he hath alwayes, and will ever bring it to passe; if he set up Rulers, they must rule; and if he pull them down, none can hinder; whom he will he honoureth, and if it be his pleasure, he bringeth men to shame; if he break a Nation down, none can build it up; and if he confound Powers and Authorities in the Kingdomes of men, they all fall as withered grasse before him; Behold ye men! he is so great and mighty, and of so great Authority, that whatsoever he saith, it is done, and whatsoever he willeth, it cometh to passe; and none is able to resist him and overcome his power; when his pleasure is to accomplish a

work; By him all things are that be, and all things live that hath life, and through him all things moveth, and of his fulneſſe every creature in Heaven and Earth receiveth; and this my Maſter is altogether honourable in birth and otherwiſe; and altogether mighty in all his works; he is juſt and merciful, full of goodneſſe, righteouſneſſe and truth, and all vertue dwells in him: and his Judgment and Mercy, his Authority and Meekneſſe: and his wrath and his Love, they are Companions; And what are ye before him? or how ſhall ye be able to reſiſt him? or to turn backward what his purpoſe is concerning you and this Nation? for ye have no being nor breath without him. Behold ye men; ye are verily as the duſt before the winde, ſo are ye to him ſoon blown away, and your place not found, as the Graſſe before the Mower, ſo are ye before him, ſoon cut down and withered, and your beauty utterly extinguiſhed, as a Potters veſſel under an iron Rod, even ſo are you to him, he can immediately break you, never to be bound up, as a drop to the Fountain, ſo are you to him, ſoon dried up, and made nothing; wherefore ye men, ye mortal creatures, ye ignorant perſons, ſons of a tranſgreſſor, ye duſt and aſhes; for thus you are in compariſon of him this mighty Prince; Hearken to his Meſſage which cometh to you from him: Hear and fear, and be not ſtout-hearted againſt the Lord God that is about to ſpeak unto you.

As for this little Iſland of *England*, wherein your preſent place and being is; it is an Iſland which the Lord hath ſhewed great favour unto, in ages paſt, and in this preſent time: and I muſt tell you he hath a purpoſe of love towards it, and to honour it in the view of the world, though through great tribulations, and he hath an intent of great good unto it: For he hath a ſeed, a precious ſeed in it, ſcattered abroad, and he hath a people that feares his Name, and hath walked in his wayes, and he hath made them, and elected them, and what they are, it is by him: that he may dwell among them, and have the whole Government over them all, yea, he hath a ſpeedy purpoſe verity concerning this Nation, and he will purifie it in Judgment, and refine its inhabitants through the fire of tribulations, that it may be pleaſant to him, and fit to do his Will: he hath a purpoſe to work ſome great thing in it I muſt tell you, as he hath ſaid unto me, ſo to do; he will have his Name exalted and reverenced in this Iſland, and his terrour ſhall be ſent out

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of it through the world, and his branch from it shall spread over the earth, he doth purpose in his season to take it into his own hand, and to sway the Government therof with his own Scepter, and to set up Righteousnesse alone, and to overthrow all oppressions and oppressors, and the Kingdoms of this world must become the Kingdoms of the Lord, and of his Christis.

True it is, such hath bin the coming to passe of time, and of things for many Ages by-past, that my Master hath bin as it were banished from the Nation, and hath not bin suffered to enjoy his Right, but hath bin expelled, even as it were by the force of Satan, and Antichrist, who hath long usurped Authority over the inhabitants of this Nation; and in my Masters absence, lamentable injustice, cruelty, unmercifulnesse, tyranny and oppression, hath bin exercised upon the inhabitants, and the poor creatures hath bin held in great slavery by their Rulers, that have ruled by the Dragons power, and bin kept in great blindnesse and ignorance, and under great oppression both in body and spirit, by Antichristian Teachers, for this many years, even while the great King hath bin absent, and as it were gone into a far Countrey: even all this time hath Antichrist and the devil ruled and reigned, and hath made and executed oppressing and tyrannical Lawes and Decrees, both in Church and State, and all the Nation hath bin out of right order, and laid waste and barren of good fruit, and it hath bin as a wilderneſse, by reason hereof; and men that have ruled for many years, have not ruled singly by my Masters Authority, but by another power, though not without the knowledge of my Lord, neither as though he had not power to have done otherwise; but for his own pleasure he hath suffered it thus to be, and let men go on to rule and govern in their own wills, and after their own lusts; and people have walked wickedly towards him, and towards one another, and all this he hath suffered, not as if he gave toleration for it: for his messengers now and then, and his witnesse in peoples consciences, have bin reproving their ungodly wayes, and he hath often shewed his dislike by divers wayes and tokens, and many judgments and strange overturning: to the way and proceeding of both Rulers, Prophets and Teachers of this Nation: But yet they have gone on, against his minde, and contrary to his Will, notwithstanding his Reproofs and Judgements, not that he had not power to have executed his pleasure in wrath upon them,

and to have destroyed them altogether, and have made the Nation a heap, and as nothing, long before this day: for power was in his hand to have done it: But he hath bin long-suffering, and of great patience, and born all things, and taken the injustice, and cruelty, and wickednesse, and idolatry, and all unrighteousnesse that hath abounded in the Nation upon himself, and suffered under it, and born it for its season, while woful and lamentable oppressions hath bin practised in Civil State, even hellish Laws, and deviliſh Executors of them, mercileſſe Tyrants have born the Scepter, and reigned for many years over the inhabitants, and in Church and State, hath bin hainous Idolatry, and Superstitious vanities committed in a high nature, and measure, and even all men, and States of men, & orders of men, of every degree, hath bin abominably corrupted, in the sight of my Lord; even from the Prince to the Begger, even Rulers and Subjects, Teachers and People, Judges and Prophets, they have bin corrupted both in heart and hand, and they have dealt falsly, and wickedly towards him, and towards one another, even to the great displeasure and vexation of him, and his blessed Spirit, and to the high provocation of him, to their own destruction, if his long suffering had not prevailed, and all this, while he hath layed, as it were asleep, and at rest in himself, and he hath left men to try them, what they will do, and he hath given them a day, many Kings and Rulers, he hath let them have a little time, to see how they would use it, but they have abused it, and not Ruled for him, nor accomplished his work, nor fulfilled his will, but acted even in defiance of him, and of his Power, and to his great dishonor, Alack! I must be plaine with you, my Lord hath bin utterly exiled, and greatly dishonored, and highly provoked and vexed, by reason of such proceedings, as hath bin in this Nation for this many yeares, through the corruption of all sorts of men in place, and power, who hath not ruled for him, but for the Devill, to their own corrupted ears, only he hath suffered men to go on in their course for a season, some as it were appearing on the Stage for a time, and suddenly cast down again, for their iniquities sake, and his hand hath bin in all these things, though very privatly and secretly, not known and discerned by the Sons of men, yet hath he Ruled over the Kingdoms of men, and pulled down one and set up another, and to forbear the severall actings and proceedings of many by-passed ages, and to come to this generation, and

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to speak of things that have happened within these few years, and of the changing and overturning that hath hapned in this Nation; such was the cruelty, tyranny, and oppression, and Idolatry, both in Church and Civil State, that the People of this Nation were held under, in the dayes of Papal-Power, such I say, was the exceeding heighth of Cruelty, and tyranny of that time, that not any that feared or reverenced my Lord, in any measure could scarce live, or have a being in the Nation, even against every man, that did but incline towards him, and desire the knowledge of his waies, Hells mouth was opened against them, and they were swallowed up, and many of their lives taken from the Earth, by the hellish power that had in that day usurped Authority in this Island, and when thus it was, then he looked down from Heaven, and his bowells of compassion were opened, for the sake of the oppressed People that desired after him, in so much that he broke, and threw down the power of their oppressors in some measure, as it stood in Papall Authority, and when the iniquity of that power was filled up, he took vengeance upon it; and I must tell you, it was he that brought it about, even the destroying of that Power in this Nation, and freeing the Nation from it, though the men that were instruments in the cause were not his Servants, otherwise then as *Nebuchadnezzar* served him, for he hath a secret way to have a service from the wicked, and such is his Power, that he can turne the wickednesse of the wicked to his glory, and he can make a Rod to whipp his Adversaries, and burne it when he hath done, and he hath often destroyed one wickednesse by another. Well, but to leave that, though he did in some measure free this Nation from much tyranny and cruelty, in the casting out Popish Authority, yet alack the Nation in a few yeares was neare as much violated by Injustice, tiranny, and cruelty, under the prelatical power, as ever it was once under the Papal power, though before there had bin some small reformation, and change in outward appearance, though little in ground and nature, yet oppression, and tyranny in Civill State, and Idolatry, and Superstition in Church and State, and all profanes and wickednesse among people, was grown so high, like as it had bin under the Papal power before, and all that desired after the Lord, and was weary of iniquity, and of the then present oppressions and Idolatries, were persecuted, and slain, and destroyed, and Injustice and cruelty exercised upon them, even allmost to the rooting out of righteousnesse, and to the grieving of

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the Lords Spirit. well then, becauſe of the cry of the People, and the oppreſſion of the Nation under that Authority, my Lord looked down again, and even for his Name ſake, and his ſeeds ſake, he had compaſſion on this Nation, to ſet it free, and to break off its oppreſſions, and by his hidden hand and ſecret power, he overthrew that oppreſſing power of Kings, Lords, and Biſſhops, both in Church, and Civill State, and brought ſome Tyrants and Oppreſſors to juſt execution, for their wickednesſe and in a great meaſure, he did deliver the people of this Nation in many things, and there was a part of reformation wrought, and much pretended and looked for, and all this came to paſſe through him, and my Lord did accompliſh it, however the inſtruments by which he wrought proved deceitfull, and became oppreſſors, as others before them, and though there was in this Nation a day of great troubles, and warrs, and contention, and great ſtrife, and the waſting of much blood, and earthly treaſure, and none of theſe things I muſt tell you, fell without the ordering of my Maſters hand, yet ſo it was, and came to paſs, that after this Nation was reſtored to peace; though much unrighteouſneſſe, and Injuſtice was removed, yet there was much alſo left behinde, and men that he had uſed as inſtruments in his hand in a good work, and to whom he had given wiſdom, and underſtanding, and appeared in much mercy, and in great deliverance, yet they even turned to ſeeke themſelves, and became corrupted in the ſpoyles of their Enemies, and when peace, and plenty abounded, the Lord was forgotten again, and then the Land fell under oppreſſors, and began again to cry out for freedom, even when other horns of the firſt Beaſt ſprang up, and went one each of them after his fellow, and though one horne hath ſtriven to break another, yet after one hath bin caſt down, another hath riſen, and made an Image to the firſt, and ruled and reigned by the ſame Spirit and Authority derived from the Dragons power, in cruelty and oppreſſion, and made Lawes and executed them, to the diſhonour of the Lord, and to the great oppreſſion of his people, and to the filling of this Iſland with Injuſtice and cruelty, even from one generation to another, untill this day, and thus up and down, hath times and ſeaſons bin altered, powers and Authority changed, and altered, Statuts, Lawes, and Decrees, changable, and alterable, for as the iniquity of one power was filled up, that was caſt down, and another had its day, till the meaſure of the firſt was alſo finiſhed, that he might partake of the ſame

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judgments, and in all these over-turnings, breakings down, and over-throwings, the very hand of my Lord hath bin, though secretly, and not discerned, yet his power hath brought about, and suffered all these things to come to pass, and who shall charge him with Injustice? or who shall say what hast thou don? or why hast thou don it? for as I have said, he is a high and mighty Prince, and can do whatsoever he will; and he is the Supream Power and Authority which Rules and Reignes in, and over all the Kingdomes of men; and what though he hath used wicked men, as an instrument to accomplish his work, and made the wicked his Rod, and even brought it to pass, that one wickednesse should destroy another, and one oppressor break down another, and the Kingdom of Antichrist confound its self, yet what of all these things? all flesh must bee silent before him, and all people, and the whole Earth must be subject unto him, for the Government and Dominion over Heaven and Earth are his, and all Power and Dominion belongs to him alone, and all Judgment is in his hand, to bring to pass whatsoever he will, and by whomsoever, as he pleaseth.

But now my Friends, though I would not be tedious to you, yet must I tell you the truth, and faithfully deliver the Lords Message unto you: and as concerning this last overturning, there was something of the hand of my Lord in it; and hee can, and will bring forth his own work and praise by it, and it shall be for the good of all his people that waites upon him, though there was much ambition and corrupted ends in the Instruments, and neither part were perfectly single to the Lord in their proceedings; but their work was tasted with the false Idolatrous spirit of self-seeking: Yet notwithstanding the Lord may bring forth his Government, and his pleasant Plant, through and beyond all this, even out of another Root, which yet appears not among either of them, and Righteousnesse may arise in the Nation contrary to both of them, out of another stem, and he will set up his Kingdom, and in the mean time leave one Potsheard of the Earth to break another. And as for you that now sits on the Throne and beares Rule, whether *Committee of Safety* (so called) chiefly, though it is not without my Master, for he hath the knowledge of it, at least, yet you are not the onely men of his Choice, truly called of him to the place of Government, neither is your Government the Government of the Lamb, neither must it be for ever established by him; its foundation is not blessed, nor can its build-

Is meant herechiefly the new Committee of Safety called.)

ing be prosperous: For why? alas, it is but another Horn of that fourth Beast, that hath been made to Rule over the world, and upon the earth for many Generations, and it is but hitherto a very little refined from the last, and is of the last, even as the eight was of the seventh, spoken of by that servant *Rev.*17.11. and it may also make warr with the Lamb and his followers for a little season, and it may have a small measure of injustice, and persecution to bring forth in the Land, even till the words of God be fulfilled, and his Kingdom be fully come; the way of which is but yet a preparing by all these overturnings: and this your present Government Originally is leavened with the spirit of the old Dragon, that hath killed the Saints, and drunk their blood, and how should the Lord establish it? Nay, your Kingdom may prove but small and little, and full of uproars, and troubles, and little peace, and satisfaction, and establishment in it to your selves, nor the people under you; but confusion will attend it, and fears will compasse it about: Though this I must tell you, as you are men, you have your day of Trial, what you will do, as many others have had before you, and something you may and ought to do, if but to make the Whore (the false Church) more naked, and to scourge her, more then some others have done; and indeed my Lord requires something more of you (as such) to do, then others before you could do, and you have a price put into your hands which you may improve to the Lords honor, and to the Nations good, and to our own happinesse; which if you be faithfull to the Lord to do what he requires of you, and if you become meek and humble men and fear his name, and deny your selves, and not seek your own honours, nor any earthly advantage to your selves; if you do thus, then My Lord will shew Mercie to you, and you shall not suddenly fall before your enemies, though many may rise up against you; but your daies shall be lengthened, and the purpose of the Lord may be turned to your longer continuance, and not to your sudden destruction, and if you walk in this way, and Rule, only for the Lord, then shall you be honoured as men, if not as an Authority, and you and the Nation preserved in peace, and the force of the wicked shall be turned backward, and you shall not suddenly fall. And the late sundry overturnings in this Nation may be examples to you, that you follow not the steppe of those that God hath cast out, lest you come to the same end of confusion and miserie: For as concerning that Assemblie of men that last sate on the

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Throne, ſomething was done by them, in their day and time, and in both their aſſemblings in ſome things they ſerved my Lord, and they were a Rod in his hand to ſmite his Enemies, yet they were not faithfull to the end, till all his Enemies were deſtroied; but rather joined themſelves to fight againſt the Lord and his people, and were haſtening on towards the waie of Oppreſſion, and perſecution; and it was time for the Lord to remove them, and to laie them aſide, as an emptie veſſel, ſometimes uſeful; and to break them as a Rod, ſometime of ſervice to be a ſcourge upon his Enemies; and when the day of their trial was over, which God gave unto them, being any longer (for preſent) unfit Inſtruments for his hand, then he caſt him into the fire; and this his purpoſe came to paſſe upon them, ſo that they and the whole Nation may be contented and yield themſelves ſubject, to what he hath done concerning them; for they being entring into the very ſame ſpirit of wickedneſſe, of oppreſſion, and perſecution, which the Lord had once reproved through them, and caſt out by them; then was a Rod raiſed up againſt them; even as they had been againſt others, and they were dealt withall as they had done to others; and this was in the juſtice of my Lords hand, and what hath Mortal man to queſtion his proceedings? and though ſome of you (preſent Rulers) be looked upon as great Traytors and Tyrants in your dealing towards them; and doubtleſs the men of that part will ſeek vengeance againſt you, even by preaching and praying, and they will curſe you in the name of their God, and ſeek continually your deſtruction, as ſuch as have taken away part of their ſtrength, and caſt down their Idol: But alaſs! all this is nothing, for the Lord doth not account as men: For theſe things muſt needs thus come to paſs for the furtherance of the Kingdom and Government of Jeſus Chriſt, that it may ariſe through all; and if you were but faithfull to what the Lord requires of you in your preſent proceedings; what you have done unto them ſhould not be reckoned on account againſt you, neither by God nor good men: But, and if, you of the Army, be alwaies treacherous and diſobedient towards him, and abuſe your power, and diſregard your price

that God hath given you, and trifle away your hour about places of Honor, and ſuch ſelf-ſeeking matters, and the Cauſe of God be neglected by you, and his people continued oppreſſed ſufferers under you, as they have long been, even then ſhall you be caſt aſide with ſhamefull diſgrace, and the heavie hand of the Lord ſhall be upon you in judgment, and you ſhall be ſmitten more then any before you; your Eſtates ſhall not be ſpared from the ſpoiler, nor your ſoules from the Pit, nor your perſons from the violence of men, no nor, your necks from the axe; for if you be unfaithfull, and continually treacherous to the Cauſe of God, then ſhall you be left to the will of your Enemies, and they ſhall charge treacherie and treaſon upon you, and your perſons and eſtates ſhall be given for a prey to your Enemies, and you ſhall not deliver your ſelves, neither will the Lord deliver you from the execution of mercileſſe men; for my Lord ſhall leave the cruel-hearted to plead with you.

Wherefore that you may be warned, I adviſe you be faithfull, let not the cauſe of God fall, nor the cauſe of his Enemies proſper before you, for there is no other way, wherby you can be preſerved, nor no other defence ſhall you ever find from the wrath of the Lord, and from the fury of your devouring Enemies, then your faithfullneſſe in Gods cauſe, and therfore relieve the oppreſſed, and take off all oppreſſion, break down all unjuſt Lawes, and ſet all people free, from unjuſt burdens, and let all oppreſſion ceaſe, both in Church and Civill State, and even all oppreſſive Lawes, and unjuſt Judges, and evil men in power, let all this be removed, and the Nation clean quitted and diſcharged even from all men, and Lawes whatſoever, that have held under oppreſſion the Perſons, Eſtates, and Conſciences of the good people of this Land, and let the Nation be corrected, and all orders and places of men, and Lawes and decrees purified, for this my Lord, the great King requireth; and he will ſuddenly have it brought to paſſe in the Nation, if not by you, then contrary to you, and to your utter deſtruction, and this is the very ſubſtance of my Meſſage to you, that my Maſter hath given me to ſay unto you, and on his behalf I am come to claime of you my Maſters long loſt right, let him have his right, from which he hath long bin baniſhed, I demand

demand it of you, all yee, whatsoever, that seemes to beare rule in this Nation, I charge you in his name, let him have his title and prerogative, let him be Lord and King wholly in his own Kingdom, let him have the excercise of his peoples consciences by his own Spirit, in all things, related to his worship and service, and let him have the full Authority by his Spirit, in all things pertaining to Church, and Ministry, and Faith, and Religion, and let his Spirit have the alone Authority, to perswade and diswade people from, or to such or such Ministry, Worship, and practises of Religion, and let all forced Maintenance to Ministers, and Tithes be speedily taken away, and let all Lawes, and decrees whatsoever, made, and practised in the dayes of Antichrist upon the Bodyes, Estates, and consciences of the People, in oppression and unjustnesse about Church, and Worship, and Religion, be utterly repealed, and made void, and never more be in force in this Nation; But let my Lord be sole Ruler and Governour, and have the full Authority in his own Kingdom, in all things whatsoever pertaining thereunto, and let no man henceforth hereafter, ever be intrusted with the liberties of the Members of Christs Kingdom, as they are such, nor to judg over them, in any matters of Faith, and Worship, but give that right and priviledg wholly unto the Spirit of Jesus Christ, for unto him only is pertaineth, to be whole Judg, and to have full power in his own Kingdom, and untill you give him this right, and deliver up unto him his own Kingdome, and the excercise of Peoples consciences in all things about Religion, you shall never prosper, nor none that comes after you, that shall in any measure abridge my Master of his proper right, from which he hath long bin banished as I have said, and till his right be given him, in the case aforesaid, he will dash one man against another, and none shall never be Established, but horne after horne shall be broken, and one power after another brought into confusion

And therfore ye men, do not strive with him in this matter, but yeeld unto him, the excercise of your own consciences by his Spirit in you, and let him do so unto all others, even as yee hope to prosper, and upon the penalty of his sore displeasure

pleasure upon you in this World, and in the World to come; and let just men and righteous men, and meek men, and men that have the fear and wisdom of God in them, without exceptation of Birth or otherwise, let such men have the Power and judgment committed to them, to determin in things beween man and man; down with all the false hearted flatterers that have ruled for man, and not for God, and for themselves, and not for the good of the people, cast all such out from among you, for the good among you is choaked by them, down with all that judge for rewards, & away with all hireling rulers, that executes the Law for money, and will not plead the cause of the poor without great fees; and down with all that will not serve places of Trust without so large stipends, away with all these things out of the Land, for they are hainous oppressions unto men, and great abominations in the sight of God, and the Land has long groaned under the waight of these things, and the Earth is weary of them, and my Lord requires their utter dissolution, as being iniquities fully ripe, and having the guilt of so much cruelty, injustice and oppression, lying upon the Nation because hereof, therfore is the Lords season to destroy them, and remove them out of the Land, which if you be the instruments in such a work, it will be your greatest Crown, and your perpetuall honour, for the Lords purpose is one way or other to cleanse the Land of all these and other oppressions whatsoever, that the people of this Land may be a free people from all the heavy yoakes of Antichrist, which hath long sorely pressed them down, and the purpose of the Lord is to break the yoakes of oppression and tyranny, from off the necks of this People, and therfore is it that he overturneth, yea, and will overturne all men and Authorities that shall oppose his work, and none shall be able to stand before him, for the presence of my Lord is more dreadfull to a Nation when he shews himself in his wrath, then any multitude of Armed men, and woe is unto you if you be found opposeing of him, and if you seek to stopp his work, you shall not cumber the Earth very long, nor oppresse the Nation many dayes, wherfore consider, cursed will you bee if you be unfaithfull in what you have to do

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on the Lords behalf, for your houre passeth over that is allotted you, and will be suddenly expired, never to be recalled, and then you cannot work.

And whereas there is a great Cry about Ministry, for sending forth, and maintaining, and encouraging a godly Ministry, as you say; now to this, I do answer on my Lords behalf; and I must tell you plainly, as for a true godly Ministry truly called and sent of God, such a Ministry and such Ministers you can never be able to hinder, but the Lord will send them out, maintaining them, and preserve them, whether you will or no, and while you are troubling your selves about such a matter, you are but medling with things above your line, and out of your Jurisdiction, while you act in such a Case, for it belongs to his Government to send out Ministers whom and as he will, and to maintain them and defend them according to his own pleasure, and all this without you, for such Ministers truly called thereunto, and sent of the Lord, will not seek to you to be sent forth or maintained by you, they will not be beholding to you in such a Case, but even without you and contrary to you, must they be sent out and maintained, so that the Lord will have a Ministry in this Nation purely of his own, and not of man, nor by man, and such a Ministry you shall not be able to hinder.

And I must tell you plainly, as for these men called Ministers in this Nation, the way of their setting up, and sending forth, and the way of their Maintainance, and the way of their standing and defence, and in every particular of their being such; they are the greatest and most wofull oppression in the Nation, even the most abominable and unjust cruelties and tyrannies is acted through them, as any other thing in the Nation, and they are (as such aforesaid) the woful cause of the Nations groaning under mercilesse dealing; and there is upon their account the guilt of blood, injustice, and oppression lying upon this Nation; their iniquities, their iniquities cries for vengeance upon their own heads, for they are full, they are full, and the measure thereof is neer finished, and Gods eternal vengeance is their next reward, from the eternal God; what shall I say of them but this, The Earth is oppressed by them, the Inhabitants

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groanes under them, and the righteous God is vexed through them, and they are the very men of high indignation and fierce wrath, and all their practices (as such) are the fewel of his Anger, to be consumed by the fire of his jealousie; the Nation is wearie and its Inhabitants; and the Lord is wearie because of these men, and is this the Ministery cried up by you as godly and pious, &c? are these the men that the Nation must be forced to maintain in their pride and idolatrie? is this the Ministery that must be encouraged? Well, if these be the men, and this the Ministery which must be established and encouraged by you, in so doing you shall never prosper, but thereby gain the displeasure of the Almighty unto you, to bring a curse upon all your doings even because hereof; for I must tell you, the hand of my Lord is against them, and whosoever shall seek to defend them, shall not prosper in their doings, because their oppressions, cruelties, deceits, and abominations are nigh finished and fulfilled; wherefore take heed unto your selves, for this is my Masters advice unto you; let this Ministery alone, and join not your selves to *Baal*, lest you perish; neither take part with Antichrist any longer, neither be yee fighters against the Lamb and his Kingdom, but free the Nation, and let all its Inhabitants be freed from the cruel tasks and yoaks of such men and such a Ministery as aforesaid; uphold it not against the Lord, for if you do, you shall never be established: and this is from the mouth of my Lord unto you.

And last of all, my Master hath a People in this Nation, even a suffering people, that have born the burthen of the cruelty and injustice and wickedness both of Rulers and Teachers, who hath as it were trodden them down, and made them a very prey to their devouring mouthes; the very crie of their sufferings hath reached unto heaven, and the very sound thereof your eares have heard; and this People are greatly beloved, and my Lord will assuredly honour them, and his hand shall be continued to preserve them, and defend them against all their Enemies whatsoever; and hee doth reserve them to himself, and for a glorious work that hee hath to do by them, and hee hath formed them for himself, and they cannot joyne with any of the hornes of the great beast,

heart, neither can a place of honour pervert them from their perfect way, but my Lord he compasseth them about on every side, and hath kept them in the midst of tryalls, reproaches, and sufferings, and covered them in the heath, and in the storme, till his pleasure is to make further use of them, they are his, and not their own, and they must fulfil his will, and none besides, and they lye at rest in him, while Mountaines are overturned, and while one Potsherd of the Earth breaks another, and this must be even till the appointed time, and to say no more of them though much might be said, they are had inremembrance before the Lord, to do with them even for his own glory, and for this Nations perpetuall good, and to the Authority of the most high through them, shall Kings of the Earth, and Nations of the World bow and tremble, wherefore ye men touch them not, neither do yee afflict them even as you hope to prosper, remember their cause, and suffer it not alwayes to be rejected as it hath long bin, but keep your selves free from the injustice and cruelty of them that have gon before you, who have bin merciless and oppressors of that people, even till my Lord hath confounded them, and brought them into confusion, for there is the weight of blood, of tyranny and oppression lying upon the Nation in that peoples cause, and my Lord will revenge them in his season, and though they are not weary of their sufferings, but are in the patience, which beareth all things, yet the Nation can never be happy, nor its Govrnment ever blessed while this people are held in bondage, and their sufferings are deeply considered of the Lord, and the season therof is expireing towards an end, and when this cometh to passe, then woe unto the Kingdome of Antichrist, and to the Whore, and false Prophet, even when their strength is dryed up, by which they have made Warr against the Lamb, and his followers, yea, woe unto them, great fearfulnesse shall be upon all the World, when the King of that people Reigns upon the Earth, and the time is at hand, blessed is the man that waiteth for it, and blessed is he that is not offended in his coming, but is prepared to receive him in his appearing, which suddenly cometh upon all the World.

THE END.

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